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It is nearly twenty years since Halm's large critical edition of Quintilian was given to the world. The edition before us will not supersede it, inasmuch as the critical apparatus does not pretend to the same fullness. Many variants deemed unimportant are omitted. On the other hand, readings not found in Halm are given from the Notre Dame MS of the tenth century, of which a collation was first published by Émile Chatelain et Jules le Coultre, Paris, 1875, and account has been taken of the emendations of more recent date proposed by Becher, Claussen, Gertz, Iwan Müller, Birt, Kiderlin, Schoell, and other scholars. Much pains has been taken to trace back emendations to their originators and to put the credit where it belongs. The cases are numerous where scholars have anticipated by conjecture readings actually found in certain MSS. Meister has removed from the text certain conjectures accepted by Halm, and restored to honor some found in the early editions. In many cases, too, where Halm has accepted the reading of the Ambrosianus he follows the Bernensis and vice versa, both of these MSS having about equal worth. A table of the readings differing from Halm is given at the end of the second volume. They cover twelve closely printed pages, and are most numerous in Books V, VI, VIII and X. There is also an Index Personarum et Rerum, and an index of the authors quoted by Quintilian. The edition marks a distinct advance, is very convenient in form, and very clearly and correctly printed.

M. W.

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Dr. C. P. CASPARI'S Arabische Grammatik. Fünfte Auflage, bearbeitet von AUGUST MÜLLER. Halle, 1887.

The appearance of five German and two English editions of Caspari's grammar within the space of a generation attests the value which has been placed on it by scholars, and may be taken as a guarantee of its excellence. The work in its present form is too well known to call for detailed criticism, especially as this edition, issued to supply the current demand, is speedily to be followed by another. Caspari is to Arabic grammar what Gesenius is to Hebrew—a judicious selection and arrangement of the material needed by the beginner and by every student till he has learned to depend for his facts chiefly on his own reading of Arabic authors. In this regard it has the advantage over Ewald, as well as in the fact that it is written in German (with Wright's admirable edition in English) instead of in Latin. It is superior in arrangement to Palmer's grammar, and fuller than the excellent manuals of Socin and Lansing. In scientific precision of statement it leaves much to be desired; its account of the nature and origin of forms is sometimes crude; its syntax, modeled after native writers, while generous in rules and examples, is often mechanical and unclear. Still, it is the best grammar that can be put into the hands of the student after he has conquered the first difficulties of the language, and he will find it useful for a long time. It is very desirable that such a grammar should be subjected to frequent revisions, which shall bring it into accordance with the generally accepted views of the best scholars without sacrificing its excellences as a textbook. Successive editions of Caspari have, in fact, introduced new improvements, though the latest German issues are hardly equal to Wright's English *bearbeitung*.

The book has now been committed by the publishers to the care of Professor August Müller, to whom they give *carte blanche* to make such changes as he

may think proper. Circumstances, as he explains in the preface, have made it impossible for him at present to undertake the thorough revision which he looks on as necessary. A new issue was required immediately, and he therefore sends out this fifth edition, differing from the fourth only in a few corrections and rearrangements. He announces, however, his purpose to begin work straightway on a sixth edition, which shall be conformed to modern linguistic methods, especially in the exacter treatment of the phonology. Professor Müller's name is guarantee that the announced revision will be performed in a satisfactory manner.

Since the present edition differs hardly at all from its predecessor, only a word of description will be necessary. The paragraphing is excellent, each paragraph being clearly numbered and separated from the others by a good space, thus facilitating references to the grammar. The type employed is large and clear; it is a pleasure to look at the beautifully printed pages. It is a pity, however, that the tables of paradigms are not printed in the same large type which is used in most of the Arabic words occurring in the body of the book; this would have made the acquisition of the forms easier for beginners. The proof-reading has been very carefully done. One slight slip I have

noted in the glossary, where قرآن occurs instead of قرآن, as it is correctly printed elsewhere in the book. It is to be hoped that the next edition will contain a full treatment of the prosody, which is almost entirely lacking in this, only a table of the metres being given. Three indexes and a table of corrections conclude the work. All Arabic students will look with eagerness for the new edition which the editor promises.

J. R. JEWETT.

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A Handbook to Dante. By GIOVANNI A. SCARTAZZINI. Translated from the Italian, with Notes and Additions, by THOMAS DAVIDSON. 12mo, 315 pp. Boston, Ginn & Co., 1887.

Mr. Davidson, who is already known as the translator and expositor of the Philosophical System of Rosmini, and as the author of various works on art and archaeology, has here selected for translation what appeared to him the best existing handbook to Dante. His purpose is to afford an introductory elucidation of the great poet to English-speaking students who may be in need of such an assistance in their own language, or who may not have conveniently at their disposition the latest critical works on the subject in German, Italian, and French. The book thus chosen for presentation in English dress is Scartazzini's *Manuale Dantesco*, which, as the translator rather curiously neglects to inform his readers, appeared at Milan in 1883. While speaking of Dr. Scartazzini as "one of the best Dante scholars of our time," Mr. Davidson does not hesitate to contest at almost every step, in carefully considered foot-notes, the positions and conclusions of the work he has in hand. Moreover, in the body of the text, and apart from any indication of editorial manipulation, we read, not without (under the circumstances) a gentle fillip of surprise, yet with no disposition to dispute the statement (p. 13): "Even in the much-lauded German works of Wegele and Scartazzini we find very little that deserves to be considered the result of new researches."

H. A. T.